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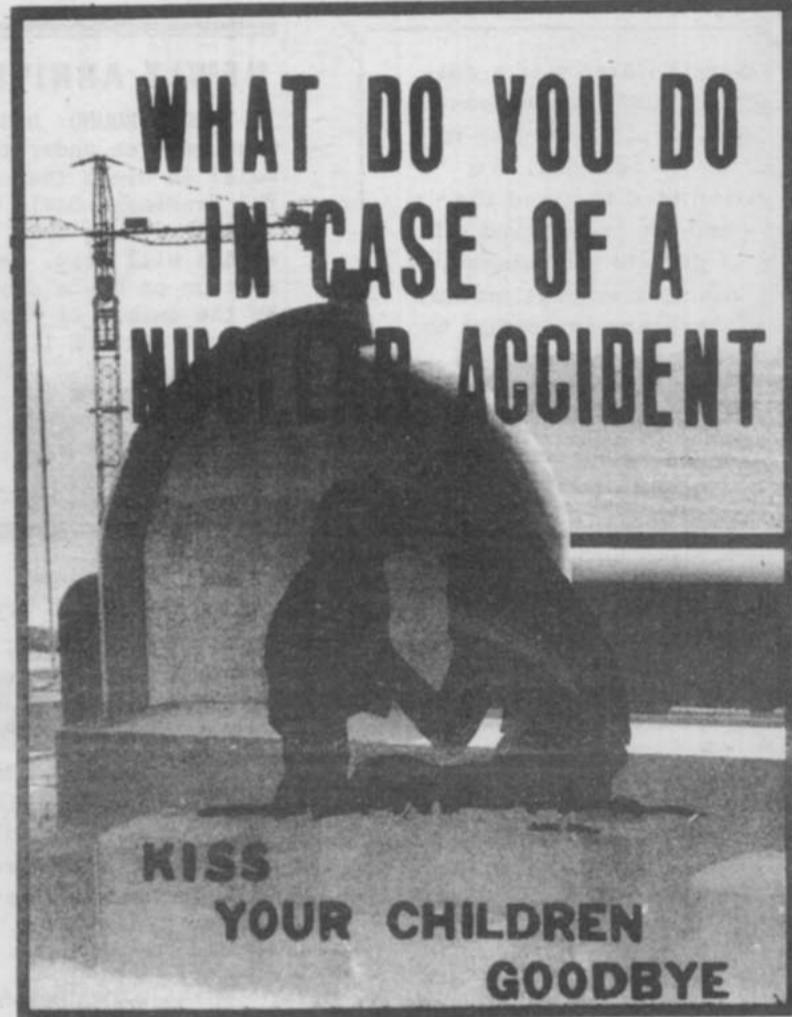
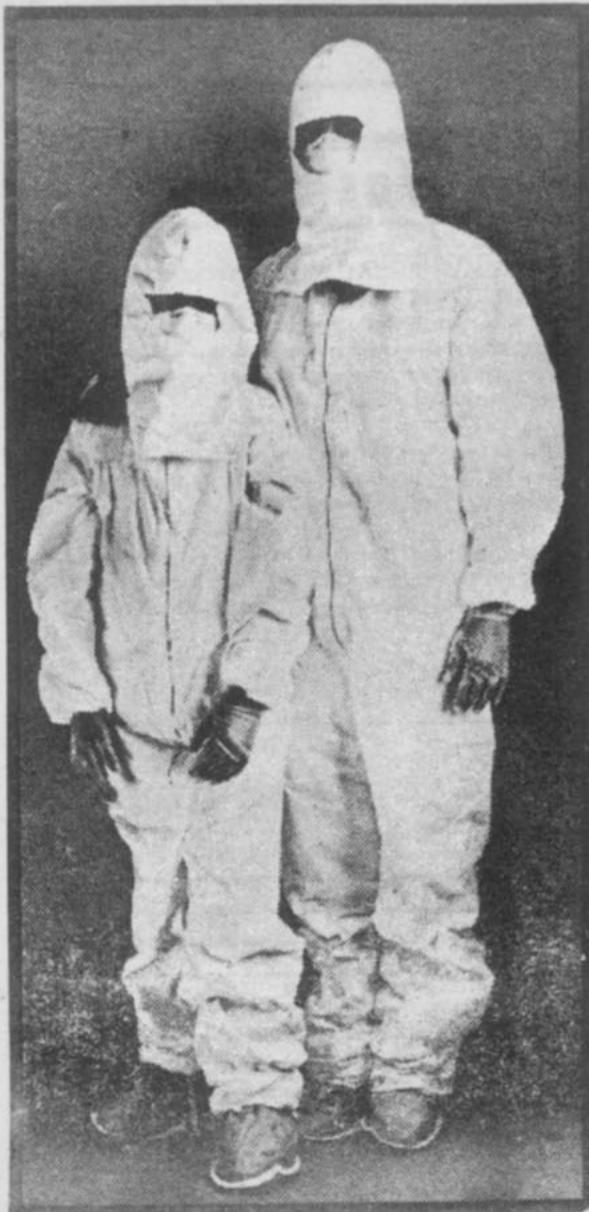
DC Gazette

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BOOK
CATALOG
P.2

NUCLEAR POLICE & NUCLEAR FASHIONS



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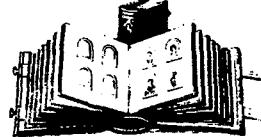
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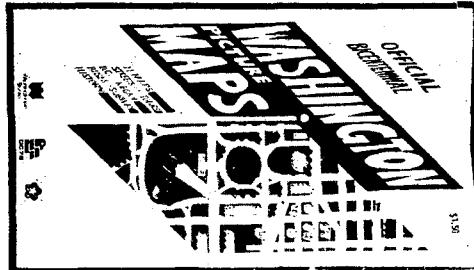
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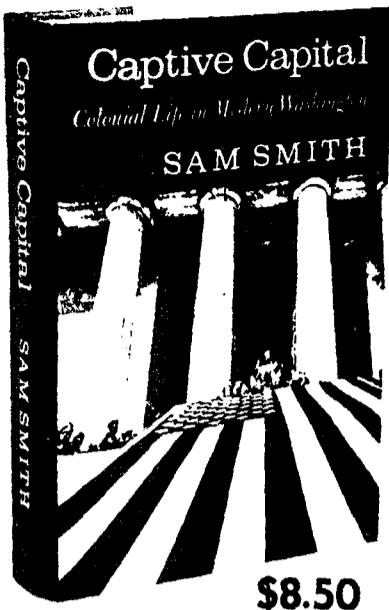
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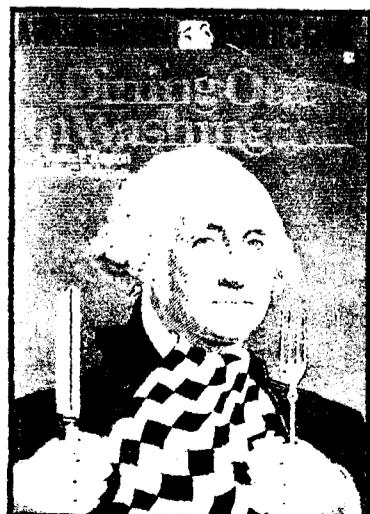
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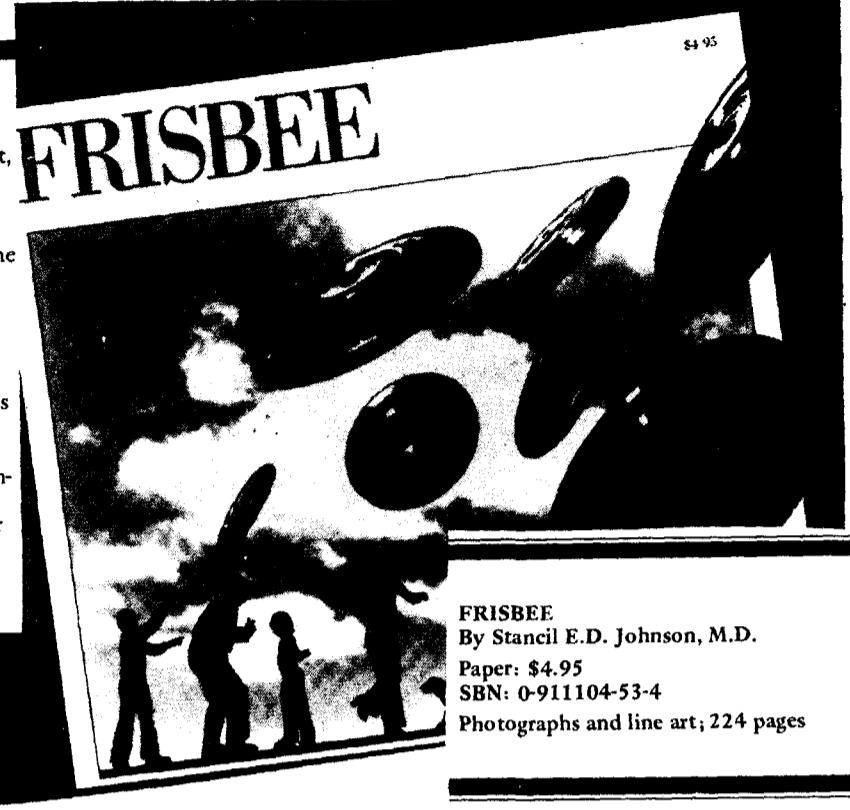
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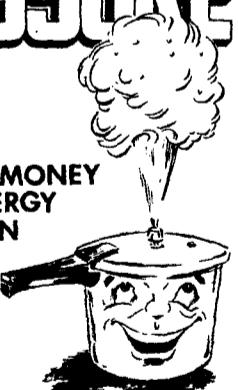
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COOKING UNDER PRESSURE

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city comment

The F Street desert

THOSE conceptual paraplegics down at the planning office have done it again. They have squandered millions of dollars on a couple of sterile strips known as "streets for people" only to find that people aren't as interested in wandering aimlessly around the middle of a street as Local 4 of the International Brotherhood of Planners, Politicians, Developers and Speculators thought they would be.

As we pointed out when this project was first proposed, the problem with DC is that they are willing to give the streets to the people but everything else goes to the developers. Now the people have their street and, according to a recent article in the Washington Post, the program has left the handful of shops in the two blocks along the F Street Mall "bereft of customers." Writes LaBarbara Bowman, "These eight small stores used to face one of the noisiest, most heavily traveled section of F Street. The street was a mass of cars and buses, and the sidewalks bristled with people. Today, the stores face a barren brick and granite urban park — that usually has more benches than people." Said one store manager "It's been ruinous to business."

While people are free to roam at will in this latest subsidized Sahara few apparently are taking advantage of the opportunity. Meanwhile, a few blocks away, where people are congregating without aid of public funds, they are given exactly eight seconds to cross the street legally. If the city really wanted to turn the streets over to the people all they had to do was change the timing of the pedestrian lights.

This latest planning fiasco, while much more modest than, say, that of Metro, the freeways, downtown urban renewal or the National Visitors Center, still has a special quality that makes it significant. It illustrates in a small space the idiocy of massive tax support of that mythical *nervana*, "Downtown Revitalization." We should designate it a national landmark, as a small jewel representing the best that urban planning the 1970s was able to achieve. Let's put a fence around it. Maybe if we forcibly keep people out, they'll come to look. And learn.

Down at the Zoning Commission

WE wandered down to the Zoning Commission the other day to check things out, spurred by rumbling in upper northwest about secret memos floating amongst the commissioners and other questionable activity.

The floor of the meeting room was strewn with tape-recorder wires. A large Ampex was stashed against one wall and a backup machine lay on the carpet in front of the commissioners' table, quite a change from the time not too long ago when the Gazette's portable Sony provided the only record of a particularly crucial commission meeting.

The commissioners were all present and properly identified. Walter Lewis was there behind a plaque that elevated him to the status of Doctor, a title which is de rigueur for some Phds but considered tacky by others. Ruby McZier, currently chairing the commission, had a marvelously ambivalent plaque that read "Madame Chairperson" and was so addressed throughout the meeting. Theodore Mariani, a mere architect, had to make do with "Mr."

Out in the audience was Wayne Quinn of Wilkes & Artist, the zoning lawyers you hire if you don't buy Linowes and Bloch. He didn't have a plaque. He didn't need one. Once we went to the Zoning Commission to ask for a file on a piece of property. The staffer warned us that we might have to wait several days for the file to be retrieved from the records. Then she checked the lot and said, "You're in luck. Mr. Quinn already has it out." She went over to a file cabinet and pulled out the file. After we had studied it, we gave it back. "Put it back in Mr. Quinn's drawer," we said. She laughed.

The question of titles is apparently a matter of some concern to the commission. During lengthy school-teacherish critique of recent commission minutes by Madame Chairperson McZier and Dr. Lewis, it was brought out that the minutes repeatedly referred to staffers with the title "Mr." but commission members by only their last names. Municipal Planning Office director Ben Gilbert, an ex-Post editor whose agency provides staffing for the supposedly independent commission while at the same time drawing up plans to push before it, said he thought that the confusion came from applying New York Times style to the staff and Washington Post style to the commission. It wasn't clear who was meant to feel honored

by this distinction but Gilbert indicated he thought it best to adopt a unified style, following local journalistic tradition, thus dropping the titles.

Then came the matter of (Mr.) Mariani's letter of November 10 to (Madame Chairperson) McZier.

On November 23, Carol Currie Gidley, who chairs Neighborhood Commission 3E in the Friendship Heights area, had written McZier:

"At the November 18 meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3E a rather appalling piece of information was brought up and discussed by the commissioners and citizens present. . . The ANC commissioners were absolutely horrified to learn of rumors about an alleged memorandum now believed circulating within the zoning commission, and voted unanimously to write you requesting your confirmation or denial of the existence of this 'memorandum' and if the memorandum does indeed exist, the ANC requests a copy of the memorandum under the provisions granted by the Freedom of Information Act just signed by the mayor on November 19, so that we might respond to the memorandum."

A subsequent issue of the Uptown Citizen featured the ANC's distress along with excerpts from a leaked copy of the memo, written by Mariani on November 10. In it he was critical of the Friendship Heights sectional development plan, compiled after several years of intense community effort.

At the December 9 meeting McZier met the issue head-on. Or appeared to. She flourished xeroxed copies of the Mariani letter, had them passed out to the audience, implied that the only reason it wasn't in the file was because some staffer had removed it, said "I absolutely abhor" comments from the public that question the ZC's integrity and that if the public does not act with integrity (i.e. by obtaining leaked material) "we are not going to stoop to their level."

Unfortunately, despite McZier's impassioned defense of the commission and slam at Gidley and the ANC, the Mariani letter remains a curiously unexplained document.

The letter begins:

"Dear Ruby: Reg Lyons [of the ZC staff] has asked us to comment on the Friendship Heights Sectional Development Plan and to forward comments to him. I think that it would be more appropriate for us to exchange our comments with each other prior to transmitting them to Reg. To that extent, I would like to make my comments known to you."

There then follows nearly three pages of Mariani's critique of the plan ending with the sentence: "I would appreciate your comments on this matter prior to my releasing these comments to Reg Lyons."

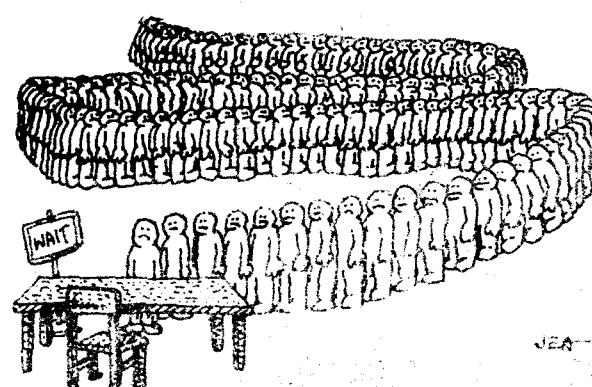
Copies were sent to the other commissioners but not to the ZC staff.

On its face, it appears that Mariani wanted to discuss this case with McZier before even the staff knew about it, let alone the public. That's what the letter says and McZier's explanation does not change the meaning of the words.

Further, several citizens attempted to obtain the memo from the zoning commission prior to the Dec. 9 meeting and were unable to do so. The memo entered the public record at the Dec. 9 meeting for the first time, a month after it was written.

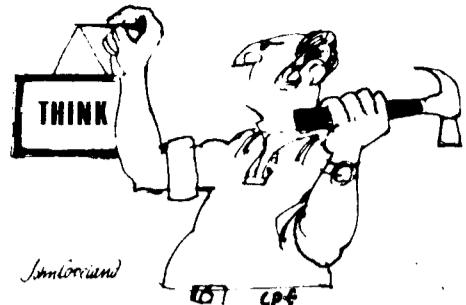
McZier, who claims the commission was trying to hide nothing from the public simultaneously accuses the unnamed staffer who released the memo of insubordination, a strange charge if the memo was public information all along.

Under DC's lax sunshine laws, there's nothing illegal about zoning commissioners engaging in this sort of backroom discussion of a pending case, but neither is it fair or proper, especially when compounded by a rather clumsy attempt to convince the public that it never really happened. The Friendship Heights Neighborhood Commission deserves thanks for reminding us once again of how far we have to go to end government against the people, around the people and behind the people.





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YOU'VE SEEN HARRY REEMS IN "DEEP THROAT" CAN YOU PICTURE HIM IN JAIL?

Harry Reems, who acted for one day in the film "Deep Throat" for \$100 in 1972 was recently found guilty of "a national conspiracy to transport interstate obscene materials." That's the distribution. If this conjures up visions of Harry lurking in dark bus stations with prints of the movie jammed into deep raincoat pockets, put them aside. *Harry, like any other actor in any other movie, collected his salary, and signed a standard contract giving up all further involvement with the film*—where it was to play, how it was to be edited, who was to have the profits. He never got an

other penny. He went home and forgot about it. Nevertheless, in 1974, he was roused in the middle of the night and arrested by the FBI, because the United States Government had decided to prosecute Harry Reems for conspiracy under an obscenity ruling passed EIGHTEEN MONTHS AFTER HE FINISHED HIS JOB. Does this make sense to you? It didn't to Harry. But he was taken to Memphis, Tennessee, where he had never been before, and in 1976 spent nine and a half weeks on trial in a Federal courthouse. The verdict was guilty.

HARRY REEMS NOW FACES FIVE YEARS IN JAIL And/Or A \$10,000 FINE.

If Harry Reems can't raise the money to appeal his case and get this verdict reversed, the government has won. They've found a way to use the criminal conspiracy laws to legislate morality. They've found a way to threaten the creative freedom of all artists. Not just movie actors. Writers, photographers, sculptors and painters. Harry Reems is the first victim. When artists are afraid to sell their work for fear

of being brought to trial years later in some town that believes they should be punished for creating it, what will be left? And if they can be judged by laws that weren't even in existence when they created that work, who among us is safe? Not even you. Because your Constitutional rights to see, view, read and express yourself as you choose will be gone.

THE GOVERNMENT THINKS IT HAS WON.

Appeals cost money, and Harry's bankrupt. The government has spent millions of your tax dollars to prosecute Harry (and he faces another expensive

trial for his role in "The Devil In Miss Jones" in February). Harry has only your contributions to rely on. Please send what you can afford.

YOU BE THE JUDGE

Please accept my contribution in the amount of \$_____
made payable to "The Harry Reems Legal Defense Fund," to help aid in the defense of Harry Reems and the preservation of our basic freedoms.

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OUTSIDE WASHINGTON

ME AND MY RC

IF you or the special interest group of your choice has a claim on Jimmy Carter you'd better get it in fast. Then consider this:

Several years before most Americans had ever heard the name Carter, he came to the attention of some of the foreign policy boys up in New York City. They perceived him as an ambitious yet educable governor and took him on as one of their trainees.

Part of his on-the-job learning came as a member of the private Trilateral Commission, formed in 1973 by "citizens of Western Europe, Japan and North America to foster closer cooperation among these three regions on common problems." The founding father was David Rockefeller backed by Rockefeller and Ford Foundation funds.

The director of the commission was a fellow named Zbigniew Brzezinski and members included Walter Mondale, Cyrus Vance, Paul Warnke, and Leonard Woodcock. But that's merely interesting. What's fascinating and a bit forboding for all those who thought they elected Jimmy Carter, is a document produced by the Trilateral Commission: "Report on the Governability of Democracies." The American section was written by Harvard professor Samuel Huntington.

Now, sit down Ralph Nader and Vernon Jordon, and read on:

"To become president," Huntington wrote, "a candidate has to put together an electoral coalition involving a majority of voters appropriately distributed across the country.

"He normally does this by: (1) developing an identification with certain issues and positions which bring him the support of key categorical groups - economic, regional, ethnic, racial and religious; and (2) cultivating the appearance of certain general characteristics - honesty, energy, practicality, decisiveness, sincerity and experience - which appeal generally across the board to people in all categorical groups.

"Once he is elected president, the president's electoral coalition has, in a sense, served its purpose. . .

"What counts then is his ability to mobilize support from the leaders of key institutions in society and government. . . The governing coalition need have little relation to the electoral coalition." [Italics ours.]

The other day Vernon Jordon of the Urban League wrote in Newsweek: "Jimmy Carter based his campaign on trust and faith and black people trusted him and had faith in him. Black people will now watch closely to detect any signs that their trust will be betrayed or their faith misplaced. The coming months will demonstrate whether the tenacious black faith in the democratic process has been justified."

They may not have long to wait if Carter operates - and initial signs indicate he does - on the Huntington thesis. The message to people like Jordon and Nader will be: "Buzz off; your work is finished." It's ruling coalition time and the good old boys are packing their bags at banks, law firms and corporations and saying good bye over lunch at the club. Good old Cy Vance and good old James Schlesinger and good old Paul Warnke are coming back to town.

Not only that, the good old Washington Post is talking like a member of the Administration again. In a sturdy defense of Carter's recycling of the warhorses of the Democratic right, it pointed out that "Personal obscurity and political inexperience do not necessarily guarantee good



judgment, or even good intentions." On the other hand, there are a great number of obscure but experienced people in this country who are obscure mainly because ruling coalition papers like the Post focus their attention on people like good old Cy Vance, telling us over and over that he is well respected, and ignore others whose politics are not to their likeing. The ones who have both fame and experience are the ones who have played the game according to the rules of the ruling coalition which, as Sam Huntington pointed out, need have little to do with what the rest of us want.

We are expected, in the words of that eminent RC correspondent, David Broder (in a recent column deriding Nader's itchy criticisms of Carter), to "be patient, Public Citizen."

Okay, I'll be patient. I don't have much choice. I voted for the enigmatic sultan of Plains for three reasons. First was the one proposed by my son: that it was only fair to let the other side have a chance. The second was that because there are more Democrats than Republicans there may be more good ones. And finally, Democrats have a considerable capacity for guilt. For anyone seeking substantial change, this is quite useful. There is no way to make Nelson Rockefeller feel guilty - not even proving that his state troopers didn't have to engage in a massacre at Attica. But Democrats are different. Make a demand on a Democrat and he'll either try to meet it or go to excruciating lengths to pretend to you that he will. In short, progressives, for the first time in eight years, have leverage again.

But that's different than having power, as will undoubtedly become clearer in the next few months.

COPS & PROFESSORS

One segment of the RC with which Carter may have the most difficulty is the secret police. If the CIA stops bugging the Micronesians, if the LEAA gets its funds cut, if the Harry Reems case is dropped, or we take various dictatorships off welfare, we'll have reason to hope. But this was the guy who couldn't see what the fuss was about My Lai, so remain discreet on the phone (or anywhere else for that matter). . . Another dangerous subspecies of RC is the professor turned official or advisor. This is as close as most professors get to the opportunity for a real macho role and some (e.g. Professor K) play it to the hilt. A remarkable number of Harvard faculty got their rocks off on Vietnam - a bit of therapy that contributed mightily to the death toll there. Now we have professor Gardner and Professor Brezinski with more to come. Watch them. Putting government in the hands of professors is

like putting a gun in the hand of a child. They quickly learn how to work it; they just don't know which way to point it. Further, reporters are usually cowed by the academic types, describing them alternatively as "brilliant," "articulate," or "penetrating." Don't take this all too seriously. It only means they are brighter than the reporter, hardly a qualification for public trust.

HENRY ON IRAN

SPEAKING OF Henry, I spotted him the other night on the tube, being interviewed at an Iranian Embassy Party. Said Kissinger: "I don't go to too many cocktail parties but in view of our friendship with Iran and my respect for the Shah I came to this one." In case you're wondering, yes, he was speaking of the Shah who has been accused by Amnesty International of running what is perhaps the most repressive system of justice in the world, with approximately 100,000 citizens in jail for their political beliefs and the world leader in executions. Another Iranian superlative: Iran is the largest single recipient of US armaments, having received \$10 billion dollars worth in the last four years.

WE'VE GOT TO RUN AGAIN?

IF there is a reader out there who keeps informed about current events, I would appreciate learning the date that the Constitution was amended to give presidents an automatic eight-year tour of duty. This question arises because of a stream of comments from the Plains White House-elect and the press such as the following: "President-elect Jimmy Carter said today that the American people should be prepared to tolerate an unemployment rate of 5 percent or more through most of his first term of office." The Carter people, experiencing some difficulty in figuring out how to fulfill all those promises in just four years apparently have a transition team working on the plans for the second term, which we gather, is going to be the big one and already pretty much of a fait accompli. Hopefully, the plans include at least a token election in 1980.

BIRDHUNTING CLOTHES FOR JIMMY

THE press which sniped at President Ford's various jaunts to the lodges and golf courses of people seeking favors of the US government, seemed curiously indifferent to the impressive record of strange goings-on in Georgia dug out of files by Alexander Cockburn and Jim Ridgeway for the Village Voice. There was, for example, the November 9, 1972 trip

to a Cabin Bluff lodge as guest of the Brunswick Pulp and Paper Company, his trip to Brazil on a Lockheed Corporation Jetstar which was followed by Carter plugging for the C-130 Hercules and in turn followed by a letter from a Lockheed Vice President to Jimmy stating, "You can be sure we are grateful for your favorable statements to some of our national leaders. It's that kind of unsolicited genuine endorsement that helps more than all the promotional activity Lockheed could do." And the wonderful memo from the Jack Crockford in the Department of Natural Resources: "Some of us in Natural Resources want to be sure that you have adequate birdhunting clothes and to that end have made arrangements to have you outfitted by 'Game Winner,' a Georgia firm that produces top-notch hunting clothing. To assure that you receive the right sizes we would appreciate your stopping by Roach Sporting Goods. . . ."

For the further details on the ethics of U Kanh Trus Myi see the October 18 Voice.

KEEPING UP WITH THE NEWS

ONE reason the rest of the press may ignore stuff like the Cockburn-Ridgeway revelations is the journalistic principle that led the New York Times to ignore the Earl Butz story when the New Times gave them an advance copy of its piece. Reportedly, the response from the top was that Times was not in the business of pushing other people's exclusives. Fortunately, one of the networks found what was not fit to print was fit to broadcast and the story got the attention it deserved.

On the other hand, let it not be said the Washington Post failed to report the stunning account of the president of the Container Corporation of America being sentenced to jail on price fixing charges. According to Time, "Officials of the Justice Department's antitrust division could not recall any other boss of so large a business who wound up in prison." The Post story wound up on the business page, relatively safe from lay eyes.

EVANS-NOVAK'S SON OF RED SCARE

MEANWHILE, over on the op-ed page of the Post and elsewhere along the syndicate Evans & Novak got themselves exercised over a potential communist threat the likes of which they have not seen since the good old days when the Reds lurked behind every sit-in. The cause of their current alarm is the insurgent campaign by "tough-talking" Ed Sadlowski to replace retiring I.W. Abel as president of the United Steelworkers. E&N admit that Sadlowski is supported by some "respectable liberals" but also "by the far

left, which is trying to regain a foothold in the American labor movement."

Confided the dynamic duo: "an upset win by Sadlowski — considered a strong possibility by labor experts — would push today's power balance in internal union politics sharply leftward. The steelworkers would join the growing liberal union bloc, and the far left would claim major progress on its road to toleration inside the labor movement."

Then they do the McCarthy routine: "Sadlowski is backed strongly by the steelworkers union's 'Rank and File' Committee (which this year sponsored a steelworkers tour to Russia as guest of the Soviet Metal Workers Union.) The committee's co-chairman is Juan Chacon, a leader of the old Communist-dominated Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union.

"The 1976 presidential campaign leaders of the Socialist Workers Party delivered gratuitous endorsements of Sadlowski whenever given free radio or television time. Trotskyists (sic) and Moscow-led Communists travel the same track here, with the Communist Daily World regularly publishing detailed, laudatory reports on Sadlowski."

Well, at least Sadlowski is better off than the Republican Party which has been joining in election suits with the US Labor Party. The USLP is a pseudo-left organization, which seems extremely well funded and spends an inordinate amount of time harrassing the real left. I hate to think of the possible contamination involved here. As for myself, I'm just going to lie low and hope I don't turn up in some file as a premature anti-Carterite.

CATCH A FALLEN STAR

Jimmy C referred to his new Transportation Secretary, Rep. Brock Adams, the other day as "one of the bright stars of Congress." Those who fought against the freeway invasion in DC have a different view.

In August 1969, the House District Committee approved a plan that would withhold the city's federal payment until the freeway system was underway beyond recall. The major proponents of the plan were notorious reactionary congressman Joel Broyhill and Brock Adams. Adams was joined in his effort to blackmail DC into building freeways by other members of the supposedly liberal House Democratic Study Group. As the Emergency Committee on the Transportation Crisis put it at the time: "This desertion of the District by the Democratic Study Group in favor of the highway lobby's program and tactics laid seige to DC and forced DC officials to capitulate — something Rep. Natcher (House District Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman) has been unable to achieve since 1966. With friends like Adams (et al) who needs enemies like Broyhill?"

The Adams-Broyhill extortion scheme led to some of the most tumultuous days of the many years of freeway struggles in DC. Three days after the District Committee had acted, the city council approved the system wanted by Congress and the Nixon Administration. Two hundred angry citizens were kicked out of the council chamber, fourteen of them arrested (including Julius Hobson who now sits as an elected member of the council). A month later the council let a contract on the Three Sisters Bridge. Another 150 arrests occurred during demonstrations at that site.

The following spring, the U.S. Court of Appeals ruled the legislation that gave the go-ahead to the bridge was illegal. The last major effort of the freeway lobby, in which Brock Adams played a major role, had come to naught. — SAM SMITH



Weather worries mount

JAMES SPAULDING

DESPITE this winter's record low temperatures and heavy snowfalls, climatologists are talking less about the coming of a new ice age and more about the fact that weather conditions are returning to normal. And that, they say, spells trouble.

Normal weather, climatologists agree, means unseasonable cold spells, frequent droughts interspersed with floods, hurricanes, tornados and erratic rainfall — con-

ditions that threaten massive crop failures, famines and possibly war.

For several years weather scientists have been warning that the bounteous grain harvests of the 1960s, which resulted from particularly favorable weather in North America, could not go on forever. Such consistently favorable conditions, they said, were highly abnormal.

Their anxiety does not arise because the return to normalcy threatens mass hunger in the developed, grain producing nations. They worry more about the billions of people in the Third World who are unable to feed themselves or buy grain on the world market.

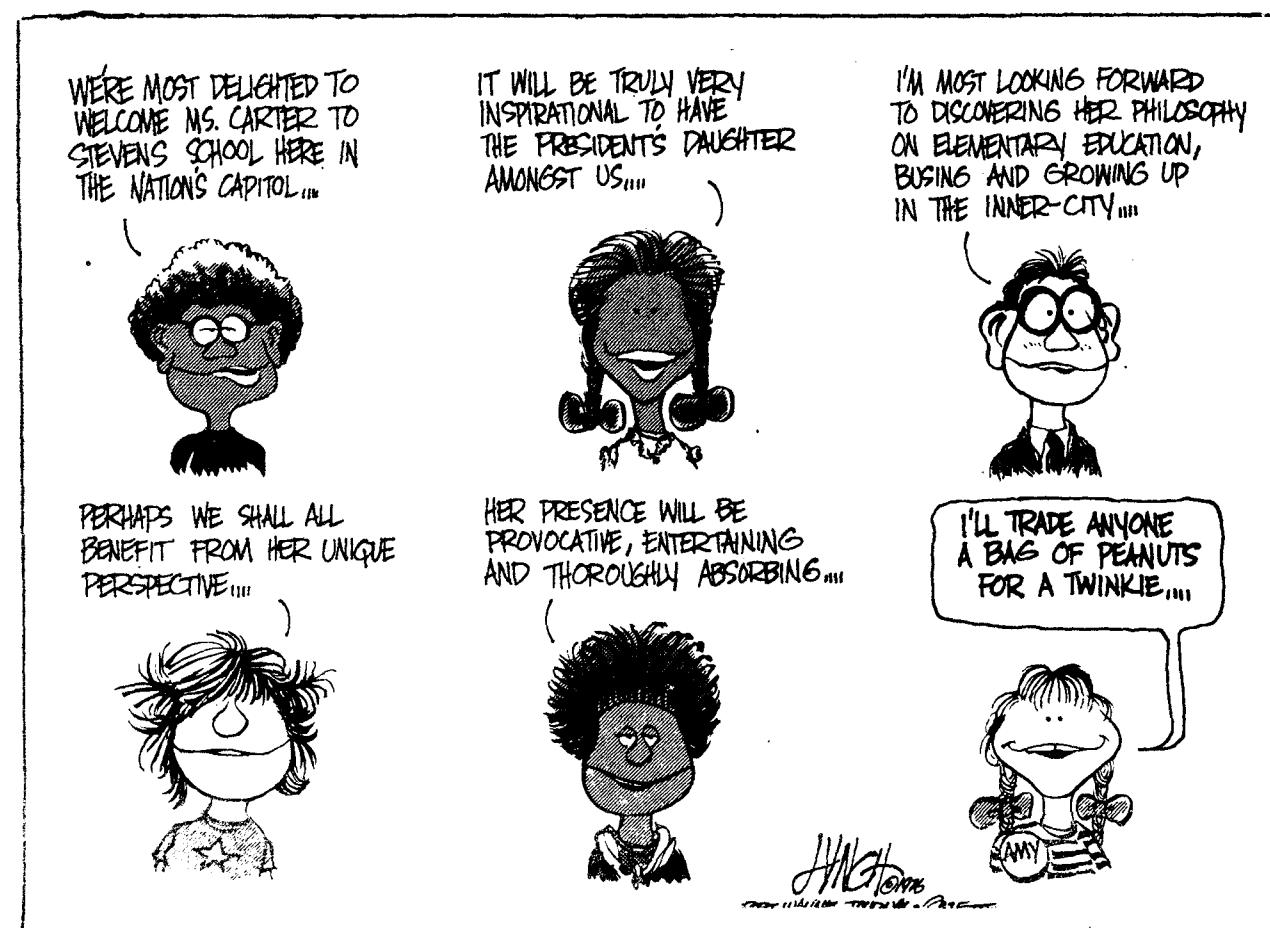
The risk is acute, demographers say, because world food production capacity has already been strained by the doubling of the earth's population to four billion in the last 30 years.

Stephen H. Schneider, deputy director of the Climate Project at the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder Colorado, says that a reduction of just one percent in the earth's present food production capacity could mean death by starvation for 40 million people.

Already, the Worldwatch Institute has reported that two-fifths of the slowdown in world population growth from 1970-1975 resulted from starvation and malnutrition, mostly in the poorest nations.

Despite the extreme poverty in many of these countries, some are among the 35 nations that the prestigious Stockholm International Peace Research Institute recently predicted would be capable of manufacturing nuclear weapons by 1985.

The potential for famine followed by political unrest, terrorism or nuclear





WATCH is a new organization promoting better TV programming with less commercialism for Washington area children. It plans to press for better programming and make information available about programs to help parents guide their children's watching. You can find out more by contacting WATCH at 4418 MacArthur Blvd, NW, DC 20007. . . . IF you've got questions or problems concerning child abuse try the Families and Children in Trouble Hotline at 628-FACT.

AS WE WERE SAYING: Long-time Gazette readers will recognize something familiar in two recent major news stories. One was a story about Sterling Tucker calling for a break-up of the Department of Human Resources into smaller agencies, something the Gazette has advocated for many years. The other was the front-page Star account of Board of Zoning Adjustment chair William Harps being under investigation for conflict of interest. The Star story highlighted the fact Harps, a real estate appraiser associated with Democratic bigwig Flaxie Pinkett and a member of the Perpetual board, got \$18,000 in contracts in

a one-year period with just the DHR end of the DC government. Several years ago, Gazette reporter Beau Ball did a study of the Board of Zoning Adjustment and reported conflict-of-interest involving Harps and then-BZA chair Samuel Scrivener. At the request of a Star reporter, we gave the story to the Star in advance of publication but the Star didn't run it. The Gazette story, however, apparently played a role in Scrivener not being reappointed to the BZA after three decades on the job and with the council's refusal to confirm Harps to another term on the Board of Appeals and Review (the council does not confirm BZA members). Among other things, the Gazette pointed out that Harps and Scrivener were both on the board of Perpetual that holds about 20,000 mortgages in the city. The recent Star story noted that one source estimated that about half the cases before the BZA involve Perpetual mortgages.

THE SHOPKEEPERS have lost out in the power struggles of the Board Of Trade. There isn't one department store official

or other conventional commercial entrepreneur among the list of new officers for the BOT. Instead we have Foster Shannon, president of Shannon & Luchs, as president; Bob Linowes, a big zoning lawyer who represents the owners of McLean Gardens, as president-elect; and none other than Ollie Carr, the Howard Hughes of the West End, as vice president. John Duncan, now of Housing Associates Inc., is secretary. The treasurers and assistant treasurers represent Columbia Federal, Perpetual and Merrill Lynch. And the general counsel is Raymond Dickey, who's with the Danzansky-Tydings law firm that is deep into development. . . . NOW THAT the city has worked out a deal to buy and refurbish Sky Towers in Southeast it raises again the question of why it couldn't buy McLean Gardens and sell it back to a residents' co-op. It would be the cheapest moderate-housing deal it ever made.

THE DC REGISTER, which keeps track of all the legal doings of the city, has improved considerably under the management of Bob Moore, but there's a glaring deficiency

roses & thorns



ROSES: To Nancy Harrison who retired last month after ten fruitful years as the executive director of DC Citizens for Better Education, a group that has consistently made sense out of chaos in the local education scene.

THORNS: To Bryson Rash and WRC-TV for editorially touting the statement of Foster Shannon, new president of the Board of Trade, boosting a convention center. Another official of the Board of Trade elected with Shannon, but unmentioned in the WRC-TV editorial, was Tom Paro, general manager of WRC-TV.

ROSES: To Robert Hooks, who tried to make the DC Black Repertory Company work and succeeded — except for the money.

THORNS: To the "restaurant" at the National Visitors Center, which is offering some of the worst cheesesburgers in town.

ROSES: To the City Council for finally voting to create a study commission to consider whether to permit legalized gambling in DC. The council's three ministers (the two Moores and James Coates) opposed the measure as did members of the Committee of 100 Baptist Ministers who were conspicuous in the audience when the council took its action.

ROSES: To Councilmember Dave Clarke who introduced a resolution opposing the death penalty. Call his office for a copy of the report on the resolution. It contains a lot of good facts on the issue.

ROSES: To the Uptown Citizen, which has become a much more newsworthy paper of late, giving increased coverage to Upper NW issues other than the appointment of a new vice president at Perpetual.

THORNS: To Jimmy Carter, for using a major lobbyist against the DC real estate speculation bill as a key housing adviser.

THORNS: To Earl Silbert for pressing the cases against the Post pressmen while refusing to prosecute an assault against Post striker Harry Manning. The pressman's union has filed a complaint about Silbert's action with the DC Bar Association.

ROSES: And Earl Silbert's telephone number to San Francisco assistant DA Dennis Sheehy who said after Charlie Halleck nabbed a wallet-snatcher in that city, "Judge Halleck was a welcome visitor to our city."

THORNS: To the Georgetown Citizens Association for prod-ing a crackdown on illegal apartments in their area. They really want to be sure the Carter people can't afford to live here.

SACKCLOTH & ASHES: To the National Cathedral for inviting city council chair Sterling Tucker to give a sermon from its pulpit the Sunday after Christmas, in which he addressed the question of local corruption. Not only does Sterling have that little matter of getting a trust fund for his children out of monies from a tax-exempt foundation but he is the most reliable recipient of massive development and real estate campaign contributions, a matter which the major media (which seems to like Sterling more than the mayor) have chosen to ignore. Further, if Wally is forced out of office, Sterling would become mayor, which makes him a peculiar choice for sermonizer.

THORNS: To the DC tax assessor who figured that Nelson Rockefellers' place on Foxhall Road was only worth \$2.1 million. It's up for sale for \$8 million. That's \$107,970 a year the Rockefellers should be paying the city but aren't.

ROSES: To Councilmember Arrington Dixon for introducing legislation that would allow the mayor to fire his top aides without civil service procedures. If such legislation had been in effect, the Yeldell fiasco would have been mitigated. As it is, once the mayor names a member of his cabinet he's stuck, unless he wants to go through lengthy discharge hearings. The aides know it and it's one reason he's less of a mayor than he should be.

THORNS: To the US Immigration Service for its uncon-scionable raid of a Mall soccer game to round up illegal aliens. And roses to the Park Service for putting an end to it.

THORNS: To the Bankers convention recently in town that persuaded police to put up no parking signs in front of homes in Woodley Park so their buses could park legally. One resi-dent was aroused by police at six in the morning to move his car so the bankers could park.

that citizen groups should fight to correct. When proposed legislation and rulemaking are printed only the new language is included. There is no way of knowing from reading the Register whether the change is for better or worse. A council bill that would require both the old and the new language of any proposed change in laws and regulations would be a big benefit to those who will be affected by it.

METROTICKS: Metro finally faced up to its financial plight last month and, in effect, cut the subway system to 60% its original size. According to the Post "Adoption of the plan does not mean that the remaining 40 miles are being scrapped, Metro officials stressed." It's just that there isn't any money for them.

Although Metro flacks view this as a great disaster, it is, in fact, good news for area residents. A study prepared by the Library of Congress Congressional Research Service considered several alternatives to the originally planned 98-mile system, one of which was a 68-mile system, very close to the 60-64 miles now being budgeted. CRS estimated the additional costs involved in going from 68 miles to 98 miles. Here's what we'll be saving:

Capital costs: \$1.2 billion
Annual deficits: \$28 million
Subsidy per rider: \$1.23

For this substantial savings we still, according to the CRS estimate, get 85% of the ridership we would have gotten from the completed system.

Now the bad news: to pay for the sizable deficits of the golden tunnels the Star reports that some Metro officials are talking about a buck-a-ride fare by the end of this year. It's going to make parking lots look cheap again.

TWO local consumer groups have accused the DC Public Service Commission of illegally delaying the implementation of peak-load pricing. The groups, DC Power and the DC Public Interest Research Group, are seeking immediate implementation of the rate structure. The complaint alleges that a November 1975 PSC order required PEPCO to place its large volume customers on a peak-load pricing schedule. The new rates were to be in effect within one year after that order.

THE fourth annual conference on Washington DC historical studies takes place on January 21-22. Day sessions will be at the King Library and evening sessions at the Columbia Historical Society, near Dupont Circle. Topics include:

Fri 10: Neighborhood studies (Takoma Park, Tenley, Georgetown, Anacostia)

Fri 130: Studies in Washington Legal History

Sat 1115: University studies of local communities (Mt. Pleasant, Anacostia, Cleveland Pk.)

For more information contact the Columbia Historical Society at 785-2068 or Rod French at 676-7565.

BIKE PATHS are the safe way to handle bike traffic. Right? Wrong, says a new study by the Federal Highway Administration. Says the study: "Off-street bicycle facilities showed the highest rate [of accidents] and also an extremely high serious accidental rate." The study reports that bicyclists on bike paths had an accident rate of one every 12,600 miles compared with a rate of one every 37,000 miles on a minor street. Safest was an on-street bike facility, where the rate was one every 40,300 miles. Writes James Fulton in the Washington Area Bicyclists Assn. newsletter:

"This is a direct confirmation of a point that experienced cyclists have been trying to get across for some time, namely, that bike paths are not panaceas, that they may instead be traps. The author of the study does not attempt to explain the finding, 'guessing,' only that it may be due to

overconfidence on the part of cyclists freed from . . . 'the menacing motor vehicle only to collide with a tree or fall on some slippery gravel.' My own feeling is that overconfidence may be a contributing factor, but more important ones include generally bad design (inadequate clearances, improper grading, wrong surface, increased intersection conflict with cars, etc.), woefully inadequate maintenance, and chaotic conditions brought about by the mixture of bicycles, tricycles, skateboards, baby buggies, small children, large dogs, and joggers that frequently use 'bicycle facilities' simultaneously.

"The author draws the conclusion that

' . . . The separation of motor vehicle and bicycle traffic is usually suggested as the inherent solution to reduce the number of bicyclist injuries and deaths. This is probably quite true for fatality cases. However, the results . . . show that almost 60 percent of all serious injuries reported could just as well have occurred on a bicycle path completely separated from automobile traffic. This is a fact worth considering when evaluating the safety benefits of a separate bikeway.'

INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS INTERESTED in the long term care situation for elderly residents are being invited to make con-



THE National Association for Human Development and DC Office of Aging have started a program to encourage more interest in physical fitness for the elderly. The photos above are from a similar program in Cincinnati taken by Cincinnati Enquirer photographer Bob Free. Test programs in Ohio, Texas, Maryland and Delaware have gotten a good response from participants and now "Active People Over 60" has come to DC. To find out more contact Elsie Clarke, DC Office of Aging, 638-2406.

Community Notice

Community Notice

Far SE Pennsylvania Ave. Corridor Notes

By James H. Hannahan, Commissioner, ANC 7B

The first of two SUMMER JOB WORK SHOPS, sponsored by the National Capital Parks-East is scheduled for Saturday, January 8, 1977, 10 AM at the Fort Dupont Park Activity Center (Mass. & Minn. Aves., S.E.). A Citizens Advisory group, consisting of ANC, community and civic organizations is assisting the Park Service in the Work Shop planning and publicity. Park Service personnel will be on hand to assist prospective applicants for temporary summer employment in areas such as maintenance and technician positions.

Southeast Neighbors is a participant in the Assertive Consumer program.

Gwen Allen and Barbara Hogan will receive a concentrated dose of consumer knowledge which they will then relay to the community through courses for citizens.

ANC 7B plans to publish its first Community Newsletter in early January.

It is not generally known, even in the immediate community but we have one of Washington's two ice skating rinks. The beautiful, new, indoor, Fort Dupont Ice Skating Rink is located at 37th and Ely Place, S.E. and is open year-round. For information on public skating schedules, admission fees, rentals, group and private lessons, Call 581-0550.

The D.C. School Board will fill the Ward 7 vacancy on the Board by an appointment to be served until elections in November, 1977. A special Community Meeting will be held for the purpose of hearing statements from qualified candidates and citizens of Ward 7 on Wednesday, January 12, 1977, at 7 PM, at Sousa Junior High School, 37th and Ely Place, S.E.

Congratulations to the newly elected Board members of the Far Southeast Community Organization (FSECO) and the Anacostia Community regional and local School Boards.

tact with Karyn Barquin, the Nursing Home Ombudsman at the Office of Again, 1329 E NW (638-2406). . . OVER the next three years the residents of Adams Morgan, Mt. Pleasant and North Dupont are expected to add about \$32 million to their savings. That's according to Perpetual, holder of 20,000 mortgages in the city, purveyor of board directorships to key individuals like BZA chair William Harps, and applicant for a SQL at 18th & Columbia Roads. Perpetual expects to net about \$13 million of this savings growth. Where will the

KAREN DECROW, president of the National Organization For Women, will deliver a women's State of the Union address on Jan. 13 at 7 pm at the Marvin Center, GWU. The public is invited to an evening of films, speeches, and feminist entertainment.

money go? Well, over the past three years about half of the Perpetual savings from individuals in zip codes 20009 and 20010 have gone out of the community. Now Perpetual is making more loans in the community — but chances are, as we pointed out last month, the anti-redlining efforts of local groups may have an ironic result: loans being made in the city but to absentee speculators. For more fascinating information on the Perpetual nexus send 50¢ to the Perpetual Research Group, Fields of Plenty, 2447 18th St., NW, DC 20009 and ask for their study.

THE nation's 150 largest private electric utilities last year charged their customers for almost \$1.5 billion in federal income taxes which they never paid according to the Environmental Action Foundation and the National Consumer Information Center. The situation exists, the groups said, because of certain accounting methods and tax breaks utilities are permitted to use under federal law. These allegations were made in a report, Phantom Taxes in Your Electric Bill. The study is based on data filed by the electric utilities with the Federal Power Commission. Of the 150 companies surveyed by EAF and NCIC, 134 charged their customers for more taxes than they actually paid in 1975; 43 utilities paid no federal income taxes at all. Federal Power Commission records showing that in 1975, electric utilities charged their customers \$2.2 billion for federal income taxes but paid only \$728 million to the Internal Revenue Service, resulting in an overcharge of \$1.5 billion. The 1975 overcharge by Pepco was \$7.3 million.

Phantom Taxes in Your Electric Bill is available for \$2.50 from the Environmental Action Foundation, 724 Dupont Circle Building, DC 20036 or from the National Consumer Information Center, 3005 Georgia Ave., NW, DC 20001.

CORRESPONDENT JOSIAH X. SWAMPOODLE has come up with a fine plan to save the National Visitors Center. He wants to reserve it for state funerals. Says it reminds him of Miller's Funeral Home, what with the flowers and the respectfully somber indoor-outdoor carpeting and all. Swampoodle suggests that the casket of the next departed great be placed in the pit in the main hall. The escalators could move people paying their respects in and out of the pit with dispatch. Meanwhile the multimedia screen in back of the casket could be used to display constantly changing slides depicting the life of the loved one. . . Swampoodle also says he's very much in favor of a convention center, but thinks the operation should be decentralized. Why not, he asks, put it in smaller spaces like schools, fire stations and food stamp centers closed so we'll have enough money to fund a convention center?



GUESS WHICH ONE



THE NEED FOR A CAMPUS

In your November issue, Donald Lief opposed construction of a campus for the University of the District of Columbia in the Mount Vernon Square area (UDC). His theme of the necessity for fiscal prudence is one with which no one would disagree. However, except in extraordinary circumstances, prudence does not contend that we must build nothing new; rather, it dictates that we build only those institutions for which there is a pressing need. It is our judgement that there does exist a pressing need for the proposed campus.

First let us clear up a misconception which is easily implied from Mr. Lief's letter. On the grounds that inflation may continue to raise the dollar costs of education, Mr. Lief applies a ten percent annual rate to the operating costs of the University and estimates that in 1983 costs will amount to \$7,300 per year per student. He then compares these projected costs with current tuition rates at other area universities. It is not surprising that UDC costs look high. Mr. Lief acknowledges that tuition payments at the other universities do not cover total costs (they cover less than half). Considering that fact and allowing a ten percent inflation rate to affect the other schools, the projected average total costs at UDC fall into line with the others. Aside from the matter of comparing projected (inflation-corrected) costs to current (non-inflated) costs, Mr. Lief fails to note that tax collections should rise by at least the same percentage as inflation and probably more if real estate values in D.C. continue to rise at anywhere near their current rate. He also does not project any enrollment increase from the present.

Mr. Lief suggests that instead of building the University, students should be provided with vouchers which they could use at the University of their choice. He implies that the surrounding universities would gladly receive the students which UDC now services. He perhaps does not realize that UDC, like City University of New York, is an open-enrollment school (or, perhaps, Mr. Lief disagrees with the concept of open-enrollment). If a student has a high school degree or equivalency, that student has a chance at earning a college degree. Not only are none of the area universities open enrollment schools, but just this fall George Washington University refused admission to the valedictorian of a D.C. high school on the basis that, although she had done well in school, her standardized college board scores were not adequate. So when we speak of vouchers, vouchers to spend where?

One aim of UDC is to stimulate social, cultural, and commercial activity within the neighborhood where it locates. Mr. Lief notes that the other area universities have not stimulated adjacent activity and therefore UDC would certainly fail in any such attempt. The distinction that must be made is that which distinguishes a city university from one whose only relation to the city is that of physical location. In general, the other area universities consider themselves to be national institutions, not locally oriented. If they were founded early enough, they purposely secured sufficient land to insolate themselves from the city.

FEEDBACK Cont'd

UDC is being located in the lower Shaw neighborhood adjacent to eastern downtown, precisely because that is an area which needs the stimulus of public investment. The consumer purchases of its faculty and thousands of students should enliven the shaky economy of 7th street. The art shows, theatrical and musical performances of its Fine Arts department (most of them free) will enliven the cultural life of Shaw. Community residents will have convenient access to the Continuing Education courses and the technical assistance which are among the services a land grant institution offers its community. How UDC can provide maximum benefits to its neighborhood is an important question; to assume that it cannot, because those who have not tried do not, is an unimaginative approach.

Finally, there is the unique significance of UDC to the predominantly black community of Washington. An institution where black Ph.D.'s and scholars from all over the world can mingle with and teach black students most of whom work full-time in order to attend deserves more than temporary location is 19 aging office buildings scattered throughout downtown. Our students sacrifice a great deal to attend. The difficulty of moving between classes and meetings, the library and faculty consultations creates additional hardship for them. They need and deserve better facilities.

Dr. Dennis Boland,
Associate Professor of Economics
UDC

Dr. Margaret Reuss, Chairperson
Dept. of Economics,
UDC

NPCs in trouble

THIS may well be the last year for the Neighborhood Planning Councils - the twenty citizen assemblies whose programs have served poverty youth in DC for the past ten years. NPCs are administered by unpaid youth and adult community organizers who spend thousands of hours yearly soliciting, creating, monitoring and evaluating youth programs; managing democratic assemblies; and attending monthly citywide planning meetings. Their long-term goal is to use available federal and DC funds to keep our poverty youth off the juvenile justice treadmill. In the process, they run 150 programs employing 2500 citizens year-round (15,000 during the summer), predominantly youth between 13-21. These programs have had a critical effect on communities. NPC funding of an extended-daycare program and computer training program kept the Stevens School open this summer. (Now that President-elect's Carter's daughter will attend that school, it has received wide publicity and can now develop its own funding sources.) Jobs and job training, delinquency prevention, cultural and recreation programs are all provided by the NPCs.

Yet NPC programs have not operated since October 1 due to bureaucratic mismanagement by the Office of Youth Opportunity Services and the Recreation Department (to which the NPCs have been transferred) and most recently by cuts in previously allocated funds by the United Planning Organization through which federal grants flow. What makes the decline and imminent fall of the NPCs doubly frustrating are the monthly talks city and UPO officials hold with the NPC Council of Chairpeople in which the NPC leaders are blamed for resisting bureaucratic reorganization; and in which they are told to "prove themselves" or else. All the while these officials draw salaries from funds intended to serve poverty youth.

In fact, NPCs are seeing the end product of behind-the-scenes agreements made months ago. The newly elected "home rule" city council unanimously agreed to eliminate OYOS (in its battle against OYOS director Jimmy Jones and Mayor Washington) of which the NPCs were a part. The NPCs were a pawn in this struggle; only three council members fought to protect the NPCs. The rest refused to face the issue. As the NPCs falter for lack of support, the council is considering the transfer of a half million dollars of NPC funds to the Neighborhood Commissions; either to ensure their control over grassroots organizations, or because they honestly see them as more viable institutions. In either case, NPCs were never given a chance by the council.

Within the Recreation Department, jurisdiction over the NPCs was reluctantly accepted on Oct. 1 and the process of reorganizing the former OYOS staff proceeds in such a way that those with direct contact with NPC programs now have diminished influence.

Just recently, UPO cut NPC funds from \$1.3 million to \$1 million. These cuts have to be approved by the mayor, who generally supports the NPCs but also must bow to political realities. This year the UPO lost \$600,000 in administration funds when it lost a federal manpower grant, and may face other cuts. UPO thus pressed to recoup some of this money. (Legally, UPO has the power to make these readjustments.)

What must be done? Legally, the NPCs need protection. Legal action might be required to obtain documents which could reveal improper decision making at several points during the last year. Unlike ANCs, NPCs may incorporate. For long-term security, the Council of Chairpeople could become a non-profit organization and apply for eligibility as a community action agency so federal funds could come directly to the NPCs.

Politically the NPCs must first recognize themselves as a force with potentially vast power. They have a track record; a citywide grassroots network of organizers and employees exists; NPC administration and program offices are located in every neighborhood with staffs drawn from local residents; and there are established channels to city and federal funds.

A fulltime COC staff, funded from current NPC budgets, should be created to undertake promotion. The Office of Youth Advocacy has \$400,000 for planning functions left over from OYOS which can be tapped for these purposes.

The real problem of the NPCs is that all energy goes into operating programs and no directed political influence has developed. The potential for political clout remains dormant. The city's residents must be made aware of the successful programs actually going on; and the possibility for increased governmental efficiency through the neighborhood assembly mechanism.

Recent experiences have shown that even the hint of possible press

coverage results in simultaneous UPO and Recreation Department concessions and gag orders. The established media could play an important role in bringing these issues and the reality of the NPCs to the attention of the public. To date there has been no coverage whatsoever.

Logically enough, neighborhood self-government needs citizen support to survive. The NPCs need the help now. The struggle to get services and pay checks to our youth has been long and draining. If the politicians who run the city can not be shown popular support for the NPCs they will be gone by this time next year.

NEIL N. SELDMAN

(Neil Seldman is former chair of NPC 13 and a current member of the Council of NPC Chairpersons.)



NOTES FROM THE REAL WORLD

AN Iowa State university professor is suggesting that thousands of tons of frozen food could be stored indefinitely in orbit above the earth.

Food technologist Allen Kraft has asked the US space agency to orbit frozen food items to test his idea that a gigantic natural refrigerator exists just a couple of hundred miles over our heads.

NASA says it will carry a frozen meat pie aboard the space shuttle to test the concept in 1979.

WHAT'S the most popular record album of the past 20 years?

If you guessed something by the Beatles, or Elvis, or the Stones or Dylan, you're completely wrong.

According to Billboard, the music industry trade publication, the top 10 L.P.'s between 1956 and 1976 do not include a single rock album.

The most popular L.P. over the past 20 years is "My Fair Lady," by the original Broadway cast.

Others in the top 10 include two versions of "The Sound of Music," "South Pacific," "West Side Story," and "Sing Along with Mitch."

The highest pop record, according to Billboard, is John Denver's "Greatest Hits," in the number 11 spot. The Beatles' best effort was "Sergeant Pepper" at number 26; while the Stones don't appear until number 144 with "Hot Rocks."

As for Dylan, he doesn't even rate in the top 200.

The General Accounting Office reports that computer crimes are fast becoming one of the most lucrative rip-off business in America.

At least 400 cases of crime-by-computer have been discovered in private industry over the past eight years in which victims have lost at least \$200 million.

One of the strangest cases involved a midwest bank president who was blackmailed by a teller who forged access to a computer. The teller had retrieved the bank president's school records, which showed he had flunked out of college, and then collected money from the embarrassed president in return for keeping the secret.

In another case, a disgruntled employee of a west coast company wrote a program for its computer that automatically erased every billing record six months after the employee quit.

The company no longer knew who owed it money, and finally, in desperation, placed an ad in newspapers begging customers to come forward voluntarily. The customers didn't, and the company went bankrupt.

THE Journal of Psychology reports that virtually all major crimes increase, for some unknown reason, during the full moon.

Official police statistics show that the number of rapes, robberies, assaults, burglaries and four other serious crimes all reach a peak when the moon is full. According to the Journal, the only major crime that does not occur more often on the full moon is murder.

(ZNS)

Cancer cure controversy

DAVID ROVIK

AS a last resort, the prostate cancer victim from Topeka, Kansas, had come to the Clinica Del Mar in Tijuana, Mexico, a seaside clinic a few miles across the California border. Three years before, he had undergone castration on the recommendation of his doctors, to relieve his extreme pain. But the pain continued, and every specialist he consulted had the same prognosis: hopeless.

"When I got here I was nearly a stretcher case," he said a few days after his arrival. "Now I've felt a lot of relief from the pain, I've gained three pounds and can walk a mile."

The Topeka man is only one of an estimated 20,000 American suffering from cancer who go each year to foreign clinics seeking relief in a substance called Laetrile, derived from apricot kernels.

Laetrile, which is now used legally for cancer treatment in 24 countries, has been banned for interstate sale in the U.S. by the Food and Drug Administration.

The FDA, National Cancer Institute and American Cancer Society all claim that Laetrile has been thoroughly tested as a cancer cure and found wanting. They aggressively decry Laetrile as "quackery" and condemn it on grounds it might deflect cancer patients from orthodox treatments like chemotherapy, surgery and radiation therapy.

But cancer patients who use Laetrile like the Topeka patient are nearly all terminal cases -- refugees from orthodox treatments that have failed. The issue they raise is why, if terminally ill patients can now authorize the withdrawal of life-support systems, shouldn't they have the

right to choose unorthodox but non-toxic treatment methods like Laetrile?

Only Alaska has specifically legalized the use of Laetrile and only California has specifically banned it for treating cancer. But those who use and prescribe it in the US are frequently subjected to federal arrest and prosecution based on the interstate sale ban. (of cases tried so far, 80 percent have ended in acquittals or hung juries.)

Laetrile users also charge they are frequently harassed by the FDA, IRS and other federal agencies. "They'll find a few rat turds in the apricot bins, that sort of things," says one California Laetrile advocate.

Says Grant Leake, food and drug coordinator of the Fraud Unit of California's Department of Health, "We're going to protect them from Laetrile even if some of them don't want to be protected."

But there are now four major nationwide organizations that are pressing for the right to "alternative" cancer therapies, including Laetrile. Each holds an annual national convention attended by several hundred members: cancer patients, physicians, researchers, politicians and other interested parties.

The most powerful is the Committee for Freedom of Choice, which rallied to the cause of California physician John A. Richardson, a John Birch Society member arrested in 1972 for prescribing Laetrile.

The Committee's identification with the Birch Society has added fuel to the fire of Laetrile critics who contend the issue is merely a rightwing political football.

Noted liberal politician Edmund G. (Pat) Brown has recently taken up the Laetrile cause, however. Brown has agreed to defend Dr. Ernesto Contreras, who runs a Tijuana clinic, against charges in San Diego of smuggling Laetrile into the US.

According to accounts by hundreds of patients who have taken treatments -- and to little-reported laboratory evidence -- Lae-

trile at least relieves symptoms like pain for cancer patients and may be effective in controlling cancer in animals.

Few of its most ardent supporters, however, claim that Laetrile can actually cure cancer. In fact, they say they promise less than do many defenders of orthodox therapies, which, as Nobel Prize winner James Watson and other experts have attested, have actually altered survival rates over all by only one or two percent the last 25 years.

At least 400 doctors nationwide are reliably reported to be prescribing Laetrile, trying to avoid government prosecution by calling it a vitamin (B-17) for "nutritional" therapy rather than for cancer treatment.

Whether Laetrile is simply a vitamin, as its advocates claim, or whether it is a new drug, as its opponents contend, is the key to the entire medical controversy.

A new drug cannot legally be used without years of testing and licensing by the FDA. And no major drug company is likely to take on the estimated \$10-20 million cost of testing Laetrile since the substance is in the public domain and, once licensed, could be marketed by anyone.

Says FDA Commissioner Dr. Alexander Schmidt, "Every study to date has not found any evidence of efficacy of Laetrile, and if there was one shred of evidence from animal or cell systems, I would issue an IND" (investigational new drug status).

"I would certainly not turn off Laetrile if it had an iota of activity that we could pinpoint," says NCI director Dr. Frank Rauscher Jr.

Yet there is evidence that suggests otherwise.

In the late 1960s, the nonprofit McNaughton Foundation undertook a massive research and data-gathering effort to assess Laetrile's effects. In a subsequent application to the FDA for IND status for Laetrile, the McNaughton report included hundreds of human case histories attesting to both tumor-regressing and pain-relieving results.

The report also included results of extensive animal tests conducted by the SCIND laboratories of San Francisco showing that rats treated with amygdalin (the chemical name of Laetrile) survived better

DAVID ROVIK is a former science and medicine writer for *Time* magazine whose articles have appeared in *Harpers*, *Atlantic*, *Esquire* and other national publications. He is currently investigating the politics of cancer research on a grant from the Alicia Patterson Foundation.

ecoclips

FEDERAL Energy Administrator Frank Zarb has announced plans to introduce solar water heating in most federally-owned buildings across the United States.

Zarb says the Defense Department, the Veterans Administration and the General Services Administration will all begin converting over to solar water heating systems as soon as possible.

Zarb has calculated that 25 percent of the energy used in this country goes for heating and cooling buildings and for heating water. The federal conversion to solar power, he says, means "Less oil and natural gas used to heat water, a growing solar industry and more jobs for Americans who will be needed to design, manufacture and install solar equipment."

The switch to sunshine will also involve military bases, veterans' hospitals and federal offices and laboratories.

A CALIFORNIA chemist is warning that many chemicals which are harmless by themselves can become toxic and even deadly when exposed to the air.

Doctor Ranjeet Singh, writing in the science journal *Nature*, reports that one commonly used dry cleaning chemical reacts with the air to produce "phosgene," an extremely potent poison gas that has been used as "poison gas" in war.

There are hundreds and possibly thousands of other so-called "harmless" chemicals that are easily converted by the environment to form deadly compounds. In fact, many of these exceed measurable levels of "deadly poison gas" in city locations. He adds that over 100 million tons of the dry cleaning chemical that pro-

duces phosgene is being used annually without supervision around the world.

AMERICANS could reduce energy consumption by up to 40 percent without affecting their standard of living, say two University of California-Berkeley researchers writing in *Science* magazine. Researchers Lee Schipper and Allan Lichtenberg compared energy use in the U.S. and Sweden, where standards are roughly equivalent, and found that the US uses about 40 percent more energy than Sweden in the production of consumer goods.

The report suggests that the US could make important gains in reducing pollution, increasing employment and lowering the capital costs of energy production by copying key elements of Sweden's energy-efficient economy. They include well-insulated homes, high-mileage automobiles and industrial techniques that could reduce fuel usage by as much as 25 percent.

THANKS to the Food and Drug Administration, ice cream packagers have never been required to list the artificial ingredients mixed into the majority of commercial ice creams. These chemicals are often used as flavor substitutes, because it's cheaper than using the real thing.

Instead of vanilla, most companies use Piperonal, a chemical used commonly to kill lice. Instead of pineapple, they use Ethyl Acetate, a chemical often used to clean leather. And instead of cherry, there's Aldehyde C17, a chemical used in manufacturing plastic and rubber. One scoop or two?

THE number of jobs created by environmental regulations has vastly offset job losses, according to figures released by Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Russell Train. The EPA figures show that between January 1971 and June 1976 pollution control laws were at least partially responsible for the closing of 61 industrial plants resulting in the loss of 17,890 jobs. On the other hand, said Train, the building of municipal sewage treatment plants, required by the EPA, has provided more than 100,000 new jobs. In addition, a study by Arthur D. Little Inc. estimates that air quality pollution laws passed during the 1970s will create at least 75,000 new jobs in pollution control equipment manufacturing.

Other ways to count votes

WHAT DOES DEMOCRACY MEAN? To many Americans (and to most of the media) it's all wrapped up with the two-party system and winner-take-all elections.

But although America considers herself the leading democracy, its electoral system is one of the least representative and the most primitive to be found in democracies around the world.

For example we elect our House of Representatives, state legislatures and many local offices from single-member districts. Not only does this increase the danger of intentional or unintentional gerrymandering, it also means there need be no direct correlation between the total popular vote and the composition of the legislative body. For example, Democrats could hold a slight edge in every congressional district and thus win total control of the House even though Republicans might have gotten 49% of the vote nationwide. This is an extreme case but studies have shown marked differences between popular support and the number of seats won where single-member districts are used.

Here's an example from the recent elections in Quebec, showing the difference between the percentage of the vote received by the leading parties and the percentage of seats won in the assembly:

1975		1976		Party
% of vote	% of seats	% of vote	% of seats	
30%	5%	41%	60%	Parti Quebecois
55%	87%	33%	25%	Liberals

A multi-member district using some form of proportional voting such as the single-transferable vote not only produces results much closer to the actual distribution of feeling in the constituency, it allows significant minorities representation to a degree seldom seen in America.

Even a single-member district election (or presidential election for that matter) would be more representative using a system other than our present first-past-the-post plurality system. Although runoff elections have been found to have serious weaknesses, there are other options including the alternative vote. Under the alternative vote system, the elector casts a ballot marked with candidates in order of preference e.g. 1, 2, 3 etc.

If no candidate wins a majority of first place votes, the second place votes of the candidate with the least number of votes are redistributed among the other candidates. If there is still no one with a majority the process is repeated with the second place votes of the next lowest candidate. Another way of counting second place votes is to count the second choices of the voters for all candidates with no mathematical chance of winning election after the first count.

Example:

Candidate A 800 votes
 Candidate B 700 votes
 Candidate C 700 votes
 Candidate D 200 votes
 Candidate E 100 votes
 Candidate F 100 votes.

In this case candidates D through F would have no chance of winning so their second place choices would be redistributed, after which we find this:

Candidate A 900 votes
 Candidate B 800 votes
 Candidate C 900 votes

The count is gone through a third time with candidate B's second place votes redistributed.

Although this (and other systems like the single transferable vote in a multi-member district) seem complex, the record of spoiled ballots is as low or lower than in our system. Further, in return for a more time consuming counting of the ballots you gain the following advantages:

- a truer consensus of the constituency than in cases where you elect by simple plurality.

- Less chance of vote fraud because in close elections, votes must be counted at least twice and the figures must coincide.

- The opportunity for people to vote their beliefs rather, as is the present case, limiting their choice only to the candidates who they think stand a chance of winning. It seems likely, for example, that Eugene McCarthy would have received a much higher vote under an alternative vote system, because voters would have known that should he not get a sufficient number of first place votes their second choices would be counted.

There are many other systems of voting, many of them preferable to our tyranny of the majority approach. For example a number of stable European countries have thrived on a multi-party system where it is frequently necessary that a government be comprised of a coalition of parties. Here, third parties find it difficult to get on the ballot, let alone into office.

Activists concerned about the anti-democratic aspects of American politics have paid far too little attention to the mechanics of voting, but perhaps some of the openings created by Eugene McCarthy's impressive effort to democratize presidential politics can be widened by actions at the local level. Women, ethnic and ideological minorities and other groups might find it worthwhile to press for multi-member districts in local government with proportional representation. The introduction of the alternative vote at the local level could greatly increase the impact of third parties and change-oriented political forces. At the very least, permitting multiple party nomination of candidates as in New York State (where a governor, for example, can run on both the Liberal, and the Democratic line) would increase the clout of third forces.

than 50 percent longer than untreated rats afflicted with the same cancer.

But shortly after the FDA gave the McNaughton Foundation clearance to begin human clinical trials in the spring of 1970, it withdrew its okay, citing the Foundation's failure to provide requested information by a specified deadline. The Foundation protested it was never given the time.

CLASSIFIED

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In 1973, the NCI contracted the Southern Research Institute in Birmingham, Ala., to test amygdalin. The SRI's report labeled Laetrile less than "statistically significant" in combatting a particularly stubborn type of tumor.

These findings were challenged in 1974 by Dr. Dean Burk, then chief of NCI's Cytochemistry Division. "My analyses and conclusions differ diametrically from those of the SRI/NCI report," Dr. Burk said in a letter to the NCI Division of Cancer Treatment. "My analysis of the (SRI) data is that it (amygdalin) is overwhelmingly positive," he argued, charging that the SRI data had been statistically distorted.

Meanwhile, in 1972-75 experiments conducted at the Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research, internationally known senior researcher Dr. Kanematsu Sugiura showed that Amygdalin consistently had anti-cancer effects.

Since Sloan-Kettering did not issue a preliminary report on the research during those years — a highly unusual procedure — the results were made known to the public only by leaks from inside.

And in experiments by a different Sloan-Kettering researcher, Laetrile-treated animals lived 30 and 55 percent longer than untreated animals.

Sloan-Kettering Vice President Dr. C. Chester Stock, who at first told reporters that the institute had been getting categorically negative results on Laetrile, now says he misspoke himself: "I say we have

had negative results but I guess I should put it another way and say we haven't had consistently positive results." He points to other Sloan-Kettering tests that he says have not confirmed Dr. Sugiura's tests.

Dr. Sugiura says this: "I don't remember ever doing experiments that were later not confirmed. It is still my belief that amygdalin cures metastases (cancer spread)."

What's happening at Sloan-Kettering? "They're juggling a political hot potato," comments one professor of medicine who asks that his name be withheld.

"Who wants to be in the position of telling people who have been saying for years that there's nothing to this, the same people, incidentally, who are giving you funds, that maybe there is something to it? Why Laetrile may combat cancer is still a matter of debate. One current theory is that the cyanide content of Laetrile — rendered non-toxic by the substance's chemical composition — may somehow fight cancer cells without making the patient ill.

Laetrile critics often contend that if it works at all, it is only as a placebo or "sugar pill."

But two highly qualified Israeli physicians, sent by their government to study Laetrile in the clinics here in Tijuana, dispute this.

Both cancer specialist David Rubin and his colleague, noted surgeon Myron M. Issahara, had known little about Laetrile before their arrival here. Now one of them says, "If it is (a placebo), then it is the most powerful placebo in the world and we had all better start using it." (c) PNS

Nuclear police . . .

JON STEWART



ATOMIC energy critics have frequently theorized that a nuclear energy-based economy could lead to a nuclear police state. Authorities could violate civil rights and engage in acts of repression under the guise of protecting society against "nuclear terrorism," just as "national security" is already invoked to justify a variety of repressive activities against critics of government policy.

Now there is evidence that this potential is more than theoretical. In a study begun in the summer of 1976, the People & Energy Project of the Washington-based Center for Science in the Public Interest has documented more than half a dozen cases of surveillance and/or harassment of citizen anti-nuclear groups.

And in addition to FBI, CIA, state and local law enforcement activities, the study has found evidence of a coordinated program of surveillance of citizen groups by the nation's major utilities and the nuclear power industry.

The People & Energy study uncovered, for instance, that the Texas Department of Public Safety acknowledged in August of 1974 having compiled a dossier on commercial airline pilot Robert Pomeroy. Pomeroy was the head of the Citizens Association for Sound Energy (CASE), a group that had organized opposition to a proposed power plant near Dallas.

Pomeroy's dossier included a report which quoted an unnamed source as believing that "subject is using CASE as a front group — possibly for a Ralph Nader action." Upon disclosure of the dossier's existence, the Department apologized to Pomeroy and subsequently destroyed the file. However the police agency has refused to say how many other persons or organizations opposed to nuclear power it has investigated and whether it continues to maintain their files.

Later that same year, local newspapers revealed that the Baltimore Police Department's spy unit had been compiling secret dossiers on, and had "watched, photographed and sometimes infiltrated a wide variety of citizen organizations." Targets included black elected officials and clergymen, and others the police considered political dissidents — including community groups that had been protesting electricity rate increases and fighting the nuclear power plant at Calvert Cliffs, Maryland.

The department's spy unit is the intelligence gathering section of the Inspectional Services Division, which works directly with the FBI, and the Army Counter-Intelligence Corp. At least some of the police unit's top members have also undergone CIA training.

(Editor's note: This article is based on research done by Bruce Edwards, and appeared in the September, 1976 issue of People & Energy in a longer version.)

In January, 1975, Virginia state delegate L. Ray Ashworth introduced a measure in the state's legislature at the request of the Virginia Electric & Power Company (VEPCO). The bill proposed to permit VEPCO to establish its own police force with the power to arrest people anywhere in the state and obtain the same access to confidential citizen records accorded to state and local police. All VEPCO would have to do, if the bill had passes, would be to obtain the approval of any city or county judge — a relatively easy matter.

The bill would also have exempted VEPCO's police unit from the proposed

private police regulations that had just been drafted by the state's crime commission. When asked the purpose of the bill, VEPCO security chief William Parker reported that such authority was needed to meet the Atomic Energy Commission's nuclear security protection standards.

At about the same time, a Washington DC-based citizen group, Organizing Committee for a Fifth Estate Counter-Spy Campaign, issued a short but disconcerting report. The study warned that the Atomic Industrial Forum, a nuclear industry association, had undertaken a program, in conjunction with the consulting firm of Charles Yulish Associates, to provide local utility companies with background information and regular progress reports on individuals and persons known to oppose the construction and operation of nuclear power plants.

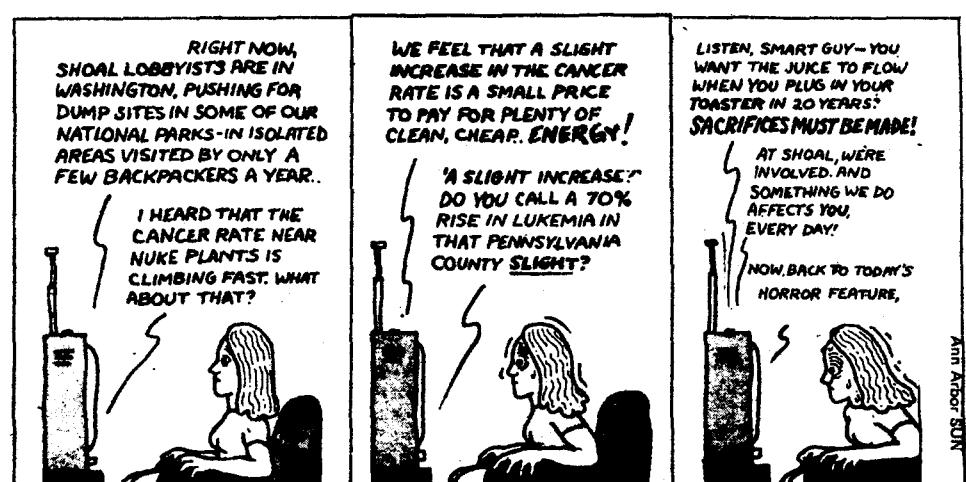
Target groups included the Sierra Club, Environmental Action, the Environmental Policy Center, Union of Concerned Scientists, Friends of the Earth, Another Mother for Peace, and Ralph Nader.

On the basis of memos reportedly leaked to the group, the Committee also charged that "it is obvious that dossiers are being kept and maintained not only at the national level but at the local level as well."

As an example, it cited the Washington area Potomac Electric Power Company as a utility that had built a file on environmental activists labeled its "anti" file. Maintained since 1972, the file contains names, letters to the editor, and articles mentioning any stripe of environmentalist.

(LNS)

Drawing at top from Bugle-American



. . . and nuclear fashions

THE renewed civil defense controversy has produced its first commercial spin-off: a personal, head-to-toe anti-contamination suit designed to get you through nuclear war or an atomic power plant meltdown.

The product, called NucleClean, is manufactured by Radiation Protection Corp., set up last August by Marlin Ebert, 37, a former nuclear engineer who fears nuclear holocaust but loves nuclear power.

From his Livermore, California, office Ebert and an assistant assemble and distribute at \$16.50 kit that includes baggy coveralls, boot covers, gloves, a particle respirator and special decontamination sponges, towels and detergents.

"It's a really super garment," says Ebert, "and with the respirator it will keep you in good shape."

The suit, which he designed himself, is made of DuPont Tyfex, a material with smaller pores than conventional clothing to protect against particulate fallout.

Actually, Ebert concedes that his NucleClean outfit wouldn't offer much protection from the thermal or direct radiation effects of a nuclear blast.. It's in-

tended only to protect against secondary fallout from a nuclear explosion or atomic power plant accident.

"Those radioactive clouds that came over the U.S. after the recent Chinese nuclear tests are just a small sample of the threat the world faces," he says.

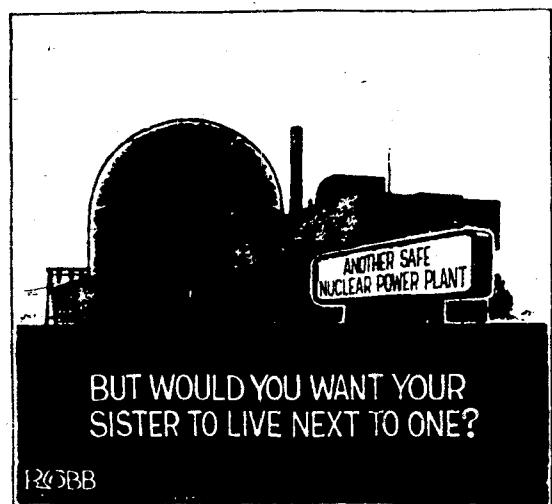
To critics who say the venture smacks of the fall-out-shelter mania of the 1950s, Ebert counters that nuclear hazards are far more real today.

"I think the major danger," he says, "is that somewhere on this globe a couple of countries with nuclear bombs are going to start throwing them at each other and that stuff can spread across the globe. Well, heck's bells, you magnify that possibility by a couple orders and all of a sudden what you have is a real threat."

Ebert, who admits to being influenced by the John Birch Society, says he's particularly concerned about Israel's nuclear intentions.

He believes that a few simple precautions, including wearing his suit, could save millions of lives in a nuclear war, which he believes is inevitable.

"What people don't realize," he says, "is that they can handle fallout...and in fact, within a couple of weeks it's gone away."



Ebert claims that the U.S.S.R. has an extensive civil defense program (a contention disputed by some American experts)

and that all Soviet soldiers "spend three weeks of basic training learning to protect themselves from radiation."

Now he's trying to persuade the Pentagon that U.S. soldiers should be similarly prepared, not only with training, but with NucleClean kits. He claims the Defense Civil Preparedness Agency has already expressed interest in suits for civilians.

Ebert is also trying to sell Pacific Gas and Electric, a major nuclear utility, on a plan to stockpile thousands of NucleClean kits at sites downwind of nuclear reactors.

His consumer marketing so far has been aimed mostly at "the conservative types who buy emergency food supplies," he says.

Ebert worries about nuclear holocaust are matched in intensity only by his support for nuclear power. He says the idea for the company came to him last summer when he was working hard to defeat California's Nuclear Safeguards Initiative, an anti-nuclear ballot measure sponsored by what Ebert refers to as "wild-eyed rascals."

"Everywhere you looked," he says, "you saw abject fear whenever nuclear power was discussed. People don't understand it, so they're afraid of it."

Ebert does understand it, at least technically. He has a 15-year background of research and development in the nuclear divisions of General Electric and Atlantic Richfield.

But if Ebert is convinced that nuclear power is safe, he's equally certain that proliferation of nuclear weapons and America's military reliance on nuclear deterrence is not. He believes that America's weak conventional military posture makes nuclear war the only real alternative in a major conflict.

Those convictions, he says, led him to put his life savings on the line in order to set up Radiation Protection Corp.

Since he opened sales have been slow. But Ebert is boning up on the dimensions of Soviet civil defense, which he hopes will convince Americans that a NucleClean suit is an indispensable addition to the wardrobe.

— Copyright PNS, 1976

the other government

FOLLOWING their poor showing in the November elections, the self-proclaimed leftest U.S. Labor Party has launched an intensive drive to recruit support from the traditional American "right wing."

Since the election, U.S. Labor Party members have approached the Young Americans for Freedom; The American Conservative Union; The National Conservative Political Action Committee; the Conservative Caucus, The Young Republican National Federation; The Committee for the Survival of a Free Congress; and other similar groups.

The U.S. Labor Party and its affiliate, the National Caucus of Labor Committees, has long claimed to be a leftist, Marxist group. However, many of its critics contend that the organization is, in fact, financed by right wing groups whose real intention is to destroy leftist political organizations.

Morton Blackwell, the assistant publisher of the conservative newsletter known as The Right Report, says that U.S. Labor Party representatives have been making numerous contacts with conservative Republican groups in recent months, including the systematic telephoning of Young Republican state chairpersons in states around the country.

Blackwell adds, however, that despite the US Labor Party's apparent efforts to align itself with the conservative GOP against the new Jimmy Carter administration, its overtures are being "rebuffed" by virtually all Republican Groups.

WAS the attack on Pearl Harbor, which launched the US into World War Two, really a surprise attack?

According to the former governor of Hawaii, John Burns, the answer is no.

Governor Burns reportedly told The Honolulu Advertiser that he had been contacted by an F.B.I. agent, Robert Shivers, one week before the Japanese attack and was told: "We are going to be attacked before the week is out." Burns, who was then a police captain in charge of an espionage unit, recalled that Shivers "had tears in his eyes" as he passed along the information.

Burns also reports that the Saturday night before the attack, there was a sudden change in the military position at Pearl Harbor from an attack to a sabotage alert.

Burns, according to The Advertiser, explained that all of the U.S. warships were moved to the middle of Pearl Harbor, and every plane was moved to the middle of the landing strips.

The former governor is quoted as saying that when Pearl Harbor was attacked, none of the aircraft were near shelter and, consequently, were destroyed.

The Advertiser says the Burns interview was taped last year shortly before the former governor died.

THE BALTIMORE SUN has published a lengthy article suggesting that Lee Harvey Oswald may have been covertly connected to the Central Intelligence Agency.

The Sun points out that Oswald, during his stint with the Marine Corps in the late 1950s, received extensive radar training at the Atsugi Air Base in Japan — a major CIA training base.

During this period at Atsugi, Oswald not only maintained a military security clearance, but also learned to speak fluent Russian.

The Sun adds that Oswald was subsequently transferred to Taiwan where he was contacted by the Office of Naval Intelligence. Some of the records relating to his Taiwan assignment remain censored, the newspaper says.

In the fall of 1959, Oswald obtained a "hardship discharge" from the Marines, and turned up a short time later in England. According to The Sun, he flew from England to Helsinki, Finland, on a day on which there were no commercial flights scheduled. The Sun suggests he may have been flown by US military aircraft.

Oswald then "defected" to the Soviet Union for nearly three years, vowing at the time to give the Soviets every bit of secret US military radar information he possessed. However, after he returned to the US in 1962, there is no record of the US government taking any action at all against him for his alleged effort to surrender US secrets.

FORMER CIA agent Philip Agee claims that support is mounting in England against the British government's efforts to expel him from Great Britain.

The British government has announced that Agee would be expelled, probably back to the United States, for reasons of "security." The British Home Office, however refused to give any details for the unusual deportation order.

Agee alleges the US government is behind the expulsion move; he claims US officials want to block his latest book, which he describes as an expose of current CIA activities in the Western hemisphere.

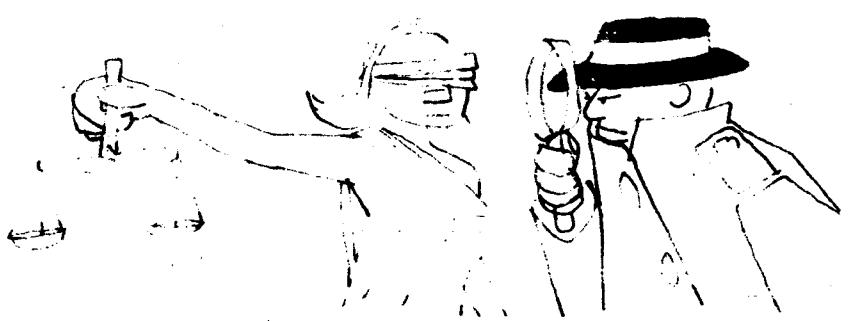
Agee is accusing the US government of using a pending \$1.75 billion loan, requested by England from the International Monetary Fund, as leverage to bring about his expulsion.

A defense fund to fight his deportation, along with that of American journalist Mark Hosenball, has been set up in London. The Agee defense fund address is "The Hosenball Defense Fund" c/o National Council for Civil Liberties; 186 Kings Cross Road; London, England.

THE US Defense Department has reportedly been studying the possibility of using human-made earthquakes as powerful weapons of war.

Counterspy magazine quotes the Pentagon's advanced research projects agency as admitting that scientists have been assigned to explore the feasibility of seismological warfare triggered by underground nuclear devices.

(ZNS)



All Power to the Managers!

The Unseen Revolution: How Pension Fund Socialism Came to America. By Peter Drucker. Harper & Row, 1976.

Reviewed by Eve Bach

Revolutionaries and reactionaries alike are bound to be startled by Peter Drucker's announcement that socialism has already been achieved in America. The truth of the claim is not self-evident. But Drucker has impeccable credentials as a corporate management expert, and evidently some in the business community are accepting his argument that American workers have already seized ownership of the means of production when nobody was looking.

Unlikely as it may seem, the revolution that no one noticed was fomented in 1950 by Charles Wilson, the president of General Motors. Wilson negotiated a contract with a reluctant United Auto Workers Union that included a pension system based on stock ownership in major corporations. By the 1970s, 50,000 pension funds with almost 50 million members had bought 30% of the equity of companies that trade on the stock exchange. By 1985, Drucker projects that private, public, and individual retirement funds will own 60% of the nation's corporate equity capital.

Meanwhile, the number of people over 65 has been increasing relative to

the size of the labor force. In 1935, there was one such older person for each ten people who were working or looking for jobs. Currently the ratio is one to four and by the middle 1980s, Drucker estimates the ratio will be closer to one to three.

What concerns Drucker is the possible emergence of a worker-pensioner coalition that would control U.S. corporations. So far, workers and pensioners alike have remained ignorant of their own power. The invisibility of "pension fund socialism" has permitted management to exploit a huge low-cost capital pool taken from workers' paychecks as "forced savings." Drucker foresees disastrous consequences for the major corporations if the untutored majority should now gain control of those assets.

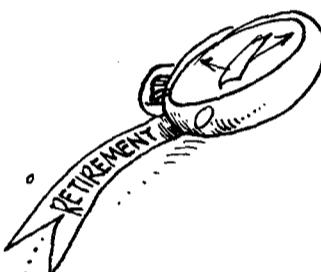
"Employees may own American business," Drucker says, "but they do not know it, do not perceive it, do not experience it . . . They do not know what measures and policies are in their own interest to protect their most important asset, or what measures and policies endanger it. They cannot act rationally in their own self-interest. They cannot control the business management of pension funds even though they are the owners."

Drucker marvels at this apparent achievement of economic democracy, then warns corporate managers that they will have to make some adjust-

ments to maintain their positions. He proposes a pre-emptive strategy to stabilize pension fund control before the unions, government, or groups of workers can assert their ownership rights. "Professional directors" are the key to this strategy, placed on pension fund and corporate boards to represent pensioners and improve public relations.

Because the number of retired pensioners will continue to grow in proportion to the work force, Drucker's "professional directors" will be forced to increase profits and productivity. For example, Drucker would continue the export of jobs to such cheap labor markets as Hong Kong, Taiwan, and South Korea. He would eliminate corporate income taxes, and hints that social security should be converted from a comprehensive pension system to a welfare program. Finally, he anticipates intense competition between pensioners and other groups dependent on the output of working people, and suggests that corporate managers begin building an alliance with the retired.

Only in one area does Drucker see the need to change business practices. He wants to eliminate compulsory retirement rules—a position possibly related to the fact that he wrote this book in his 67th year.



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FLOTSAM CONT'D

than to merely use it. Senator Abouresk and DC Delegate Walter Fauntroy were all I could come up with. Abouresk plays guitar; Fauntroy sings. Neither are going to make a big dent in official Washington. Abouresk, in fact, is probably the most atypical senator on the Hill. You can't be a typical senator and play guitar.

Early in the ill-fated Fred Harris campaign I went to a party thrown for Harris by Abouresk. It ended the way a party should, with guitars and fiddles and songs. The other evening I went to a party filled with people from the old left. It ended the way a party should, with old union and Spanish civil war songs. In fact, when you come right down to it, there's hardly been a political movement in this country worth a damn that didn't rely heavily on music: the union movement, the civil rights activists, the anti-war rebellion. People who are trying to change things need music, to provide courage, unity and cheer when everything points the other way. Every American teenager lost in the cold between the security of childhood and the respect of age knows that when there's little else, there's still music.

Perhaps it is because those in power subconsciously recognize the subversive force of music that they want so little to do with it. Perhaps they sense that music is the enemy of repression and blind ambition. It is no mere coincidence that when profiles of Jimmy Carter's new cabinet were published recently, only one member lists music as a hobby. Music, it seems, speaks to a portion of our soul that has little survival value in official Washington.

It should be a warning to us—that we elect so many people who don't seem to care about music. It's a danger signal, as much as a conflict of interest or a suspicious liaison. Shakespeare said it and it's still true:

*The man that hath no music in himself,
Nor is not mov'd with concord of sweetsounds,
Is fit for treasons, strategems, and spoils;
The motions of his spirit are dull as night,
And his affections dark as Erebus.
Let no such man be trusted.*

—SAM SMITH

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flotsam & jetsam

MY earliest musical memory is of sitting on the john and singing "I got to Kansas City on a Friday; by Saturday I'd learned a thing or two. . ." That and the big posters my parents had of all the instruments of the orchestra and going to a children's concert at Lisner and a kid in front of me being stabbed by another kid.

Not perhaps the most auspicious entry into the musical world but it was a start. And it was followed by six years of painful piano lessons, constant reminders that music was good for me (thereby putting it in the same category as milk of magnesia and dental floss), a brief (two-week) fling with the trumpet, a slightly longer engagement with the clarinet, (which my parents thought would do less damage to my lungs), popular piano lessons from the school geology-anthropology teacher who played solely in the obscure key that uses all of the black notes, dutiful but unenthusiastic participation in the high school choir, listening to an album made by some 1920s New York ballroom orchestra over and over again, and sharing with my older brother the delights of WCKY, WWVA and Sunday morning gospel music.

I went to a Quaker school in Philadelphia that had not allowed dancing until 1939. By the early fifties, though, music was a major part of school life as it graduated from Gilbert & Sullivan to serious choral work, eventually performing Arthur Honegger's rugged "King David." My father ran a classical music radio station, so between school and home I was well surrounded by "good" music.

But I found jazz anyway. First, it was a 45 recording of "Fidgety Feet" by the Memphis Five. Then the Benny Goodman Carnegie Hall Concert. I listened and thought that there might yet be a place for me in music. As a drummer.

My parents went along with the whim and I practiced to the Memphis Five and Benny Goodman and took the A bus every Saturday down to Henry Glass's music store on 18th Street for lessons from a drummer who regularly nodded off from an overdose of work or whatever.

Soon I was ready for my first assault on the power structure. As one tended to do in the fifties, especially if you were still in high school, I chose a cultural rather than a political attack. I organized a dance band, the first one the school had known. The "Six Saints" included one each piano, trumpet, saxophone, metal clarinet, drums, and a cello perched on a stool and plucked like a bass. My bass drum was 28" in diameter and probably dated to 1928. We were well received, even by the choir director, who later employed me as tympanist for some of her more grandiose works. We were not good, regardless of what we said to ourselves at the time.

Then I went to college. Among the many astonishments involved in that transition was that not only did everyone at Harvard U. know more about literature, sex and political theory than I did, but they knew more about music. There were students who would end up with recording contracts. There was Joe Raposo who would write much of the great music for "Sesame Street." There was the sax player with whom I would play for four years, Bob Brenman (now Dr. Robert Brenman), who had already worked the borscht circuit for several summers and could blow "A Train" lying on the floor and kicking his feet in the air. And there was this girl that Lew Walling knew - Lew Walling who was to be one of the first Ameri-

cans killed in Vietnam - who came down to the radio station and sang and played guitar and was something special. Her name was Joan Baez.

Music was all around. There must have been at least a half-dozen working drummers in my class alone. Drummers who would grow up to be lawyers, doctors, corporate vice presidents, but for awhile understood that a paradiddle revealed more of God's way to man than Soc Sci Two did. And they were good.

I was over my head. Fortunately, I had played enough high-low poker to survive. It occurred to me that being a successful drummer and being a great drummer were two different things. Since it was clear I would never be a great drummer, I set my sights on the former course. I went low. In a jazz group the piano, bass and drums are often referred to as the "back-up" section. Alone among these instruments the drums can either back-up or take over. It's up to the drummer. I decided to back up. I had early observed that most other musicians were not enthralled by displays of rhythmic pyrotechnics by drum-



mers. They wanted someone who would keep the beat and listen to what they were doing and give them support. You sit back there with your Gretsch pancake snare, a snapping high hat, a nice Avedis Zildjian 20" ride cymbal, your tight-smacking bass drum and a tom-tom and you take over the show. But if you do, if you're really not that good, you won't get the next gig. Besides, if you listen to what you're doing you realize you're destroying what jazz is about. Jazz is musical democracy. The greatest amount of freedom without screwing up someone else's. If you want to learn how a country or a community ought to be run, listen to jazz. It is perhaps the purest form of democracy that exists today. The premise is that everyone should say what they have to say in the best possible environment but that there is a whole to which each participant voluntarily yields in order to make everyone else sound better. The trumpet player is having problems, you listen and pick up on one of his riffs, give him a little support, he hears it and backs down, finds the groove and is off safely again. The drummer is having problems, the piano player simplifies the pattern, looks over at you, nods as if to say "Come on it's all right," or the bass player throws his body into the music, becomes the unappointed but essential conductor of the moment, and drives the group back to where it should be.

So much goes on in those split instances; they stand like hours in my memory. The moment when something right turned wrong. The moment when four or five or six people trying to do something together couldn't make it, but couldn't walk away from it, so made it right. It is a demand that in personal or political lives from which we tend to retreat. But when you have 12 bars plus three more choruses to go, you don't. I'd vote for any good bass player who ran for president. And if the Carter transition team invited me for consultation, I'd tell them that the difference between merely getting by and grooving is often a nuance of rhythm and touch so subtle that you can not describe it on paper; you only know it when it happens. Like that mo-

ment when a mundane ching-chicka-ching with a backbeat on the snare suddenly seizes the musical parts and makes them one mystical driving force steaming happily, gloriously, into endless time.

I was meant to be a student. In fact, I divided my time between the college radio station - among other things as a jazz DJ with a show called "Jam With Sam," and playing drums. I don't regret it a bit. Not the twelve hour gig playing for two SAE fraternities. Not the hours in coffeehouses and jazz clubs trying to absorb something from the drummer. Nor the nights riding the one cab in Cambridge that was willing to haul a four-piece combo including drums and string bass over to the suburbs, nor playing to the awful echo of your own sound in an empty hall where the dance was supposed to start at eight but no one came until 9:30. Nor sleeping through Zbiggy Breszinski's class.

I was later to find out, via Time Magazine, that I was part of a generation, that drinking orange juice and munching on English muffins at four a.m. in Hayes-Bickford after a gig and talking until the sun came up had some social significance. That passing time in a coffeehouse or wasting time somewhere else was a rebellion of import.

Then I graduated, magna cum probation. And to graduate meant to lose music. To graduate meant to no longer be able to walk down the hall or across the street and find someone who would get on the phone and find someone else who would be free for a session. To graduate meant to face the real world, which meant a world without much music.

I have resisted the real world the best that I could. When I was stationed aboard a Coast Guard cutter I bought myself an accordian I called my "seagoing piano." I joined the New Sunshine Jazz Band for awhile but I couldn't raise a family and do what I was supposed to do and be a drummer too. I picked up the piano again, taught myself the tenor guitar, marched in the Cleveland Park Halloween Parade, played at a few parties, and tried to tell my children, by sounds other than words, how important music is. Not just for listening - but for making. Not just for "musicians" but for anyone.

I hope they'll learn (maybe they have already) that there are times when music is the only thing that makes sense. Comfort in the face of loneliness. The feeling of tension and frustration departing your body through your fingers. To be able even for fifteen minutes, to sit at my upright and play "I Ain't Gonna Give No One None of My Jelly Roll" or "I Got Those Steadily Depressing, Low Down Mind Messin' Working at the Car Wash Blues" saves me thousands of dollars in psychiatrist bills. Music is what people had before they had therapy. And it worked.

But it's not the same. Twice a year or so, my friend up the street and I get together and do our schtick somewhere. But most of the time, we're being responsible, doing our job, trying to get by, without music. For Washington will go to the Kennedy Center, but it doesn't really care that much about music. The official city uses music - like Jerry Ford used Captain and Teneel and Jimmy Carter used Bob Dylan and Greg Allman. But mostly the music is confined to places where you have to be invited or have to pay or as a bridge between commercials. People who are supposed to matter in Washington don't talk about it, don't play it, don't recognize it as more important than the next cabinet appointment.

I was trying to think the other night of political figures who cared enough about music to throw themselves into it, rather

(Please turn to page 19)

